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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,829	09/08/2003	Christopher M. Schloesser	12821.31US01	2855
23552	7590	06/17/2004	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903				HESS, DOUGLAS A
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		3651		

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/658,829	SCHLOESSER, CHRISTOPHER M.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Douglas A Hess	3651	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2003.  
2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b)  This action is non-final.  
3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6)  Claim(s) 1,2,7-12 and 16-20 is/are rejected.  
7)  Claim(s) 3-6 and 13-15 is/are objected to.  
8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on 08 September 2003 is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 7-11, and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Falcioni (US Pat 5,421,448).

See the attached marked up copies of the cover sheet and figure 1 (of Falcioni) depicting the claimed features.

3. Claims 1, 2, 9, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Straub (US Pat 6,135,267).

See the attached marked up copy of figure 1 (of Straub) depicting the claimed features.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 3-6 and 13-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas A Hess whose telephone number is 703-308-3428. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thurs 5:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Ellis can be reached on 703-308-2560. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Douglas A Hess  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3651

6-9-04

DAH  
June 9, 2004



US005421448A

# United States Patent [19]

Falcioni

[11] Patent Number: 5,421,448  
[45] Date of Patent: Jun. 6, 1995

[54] BELT CONVEYOR FOR PAINT APPLICATION SYSTEM WITH PIECE SUPPORTING SURFACE CLEANING AND PAINT RECOVERING DEVICE

[75] Inventor: Ezio Falcioni, Pesaro, Italy

[73] Assignee: Falcioni Macchine SRL, Pesaro, Italy

[21] Appl. No.: 255,073

[22] Filed: Jun. 7, 1994

## Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 80,565, Jun. 21, 1993, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... B65G 45/00

[52] U.S. Cl. ..... 198/498

[58] Field of Search ..... 198/497, 498, 495

## References Cited

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,324,327 4/1982 Choutéau et al. ..... 198/497

4,359,150 11/1982 Bowman et al. ..... 198/497

4,811,833 3/1989 Sliker ..... 198/497 X

4,888,200 12/1989 Milliken.

4,917,231 4/1990 Swinderman ..... 198/497

5,147,028 9/1992 Raggi ..... 198/495

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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0783147	11/1980	U.S.S.R. ..... 198/498

Primary Examiner—D. Glenn Dayoan  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Herbert Dubno

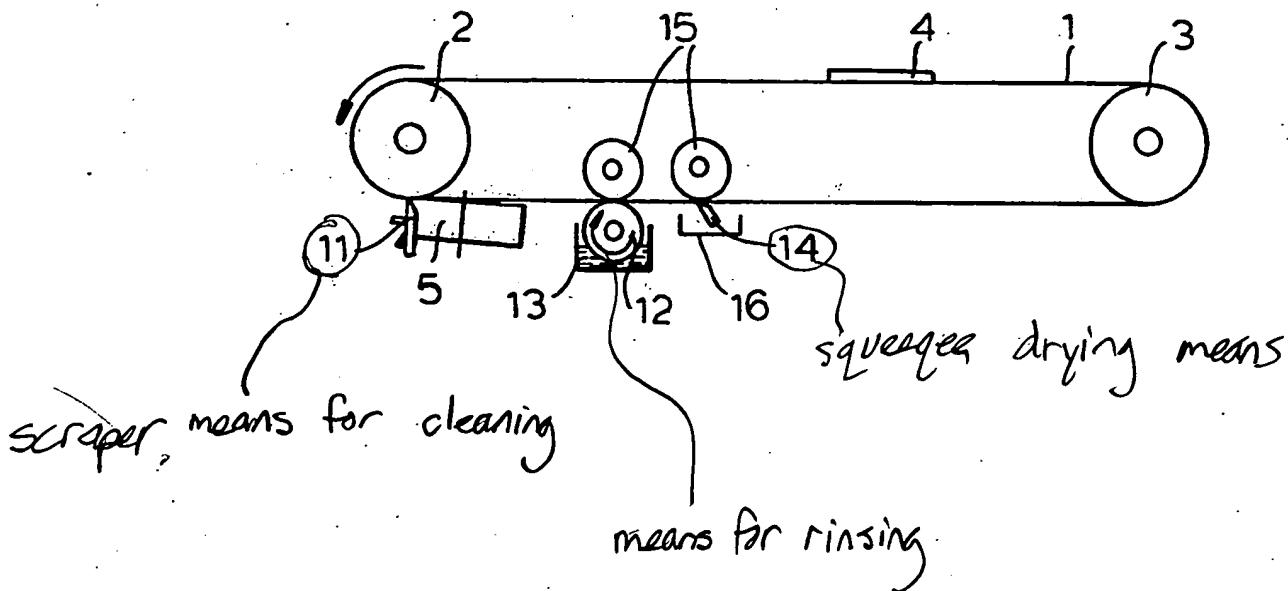
## [57]

### ABSTRACT

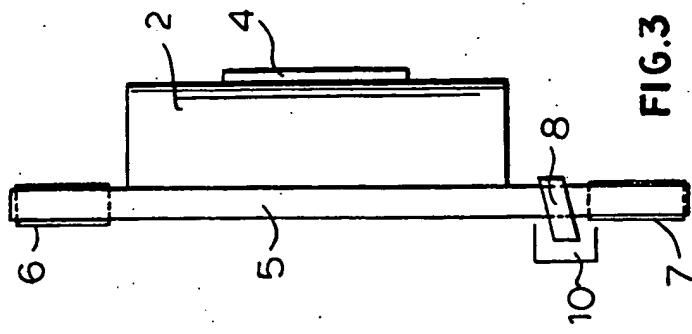
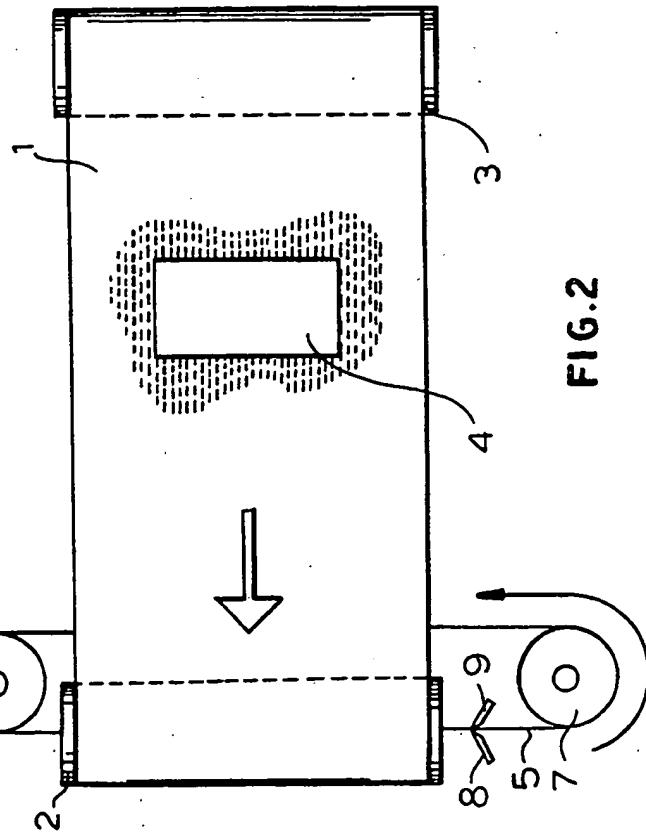
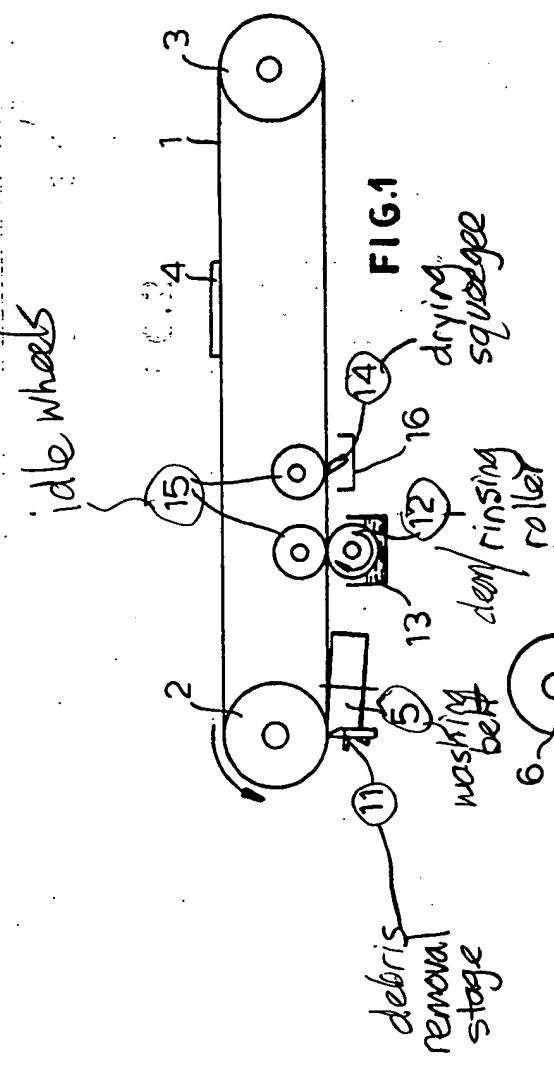
An automatic paint application system equipped with a belt conveyor for transporting the pieces being painted is provided with a device for continuously cleaning the support surface of the conveyor and for removing the residual paint, and including a cleaning belt made of steel or other suitable material and extending along a path transverse to the conveyor with which it comes in contact with proper incidence angle, so as to act as a doctor or scraper.

3 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

CLAIM 16



CLAIMS 1-15



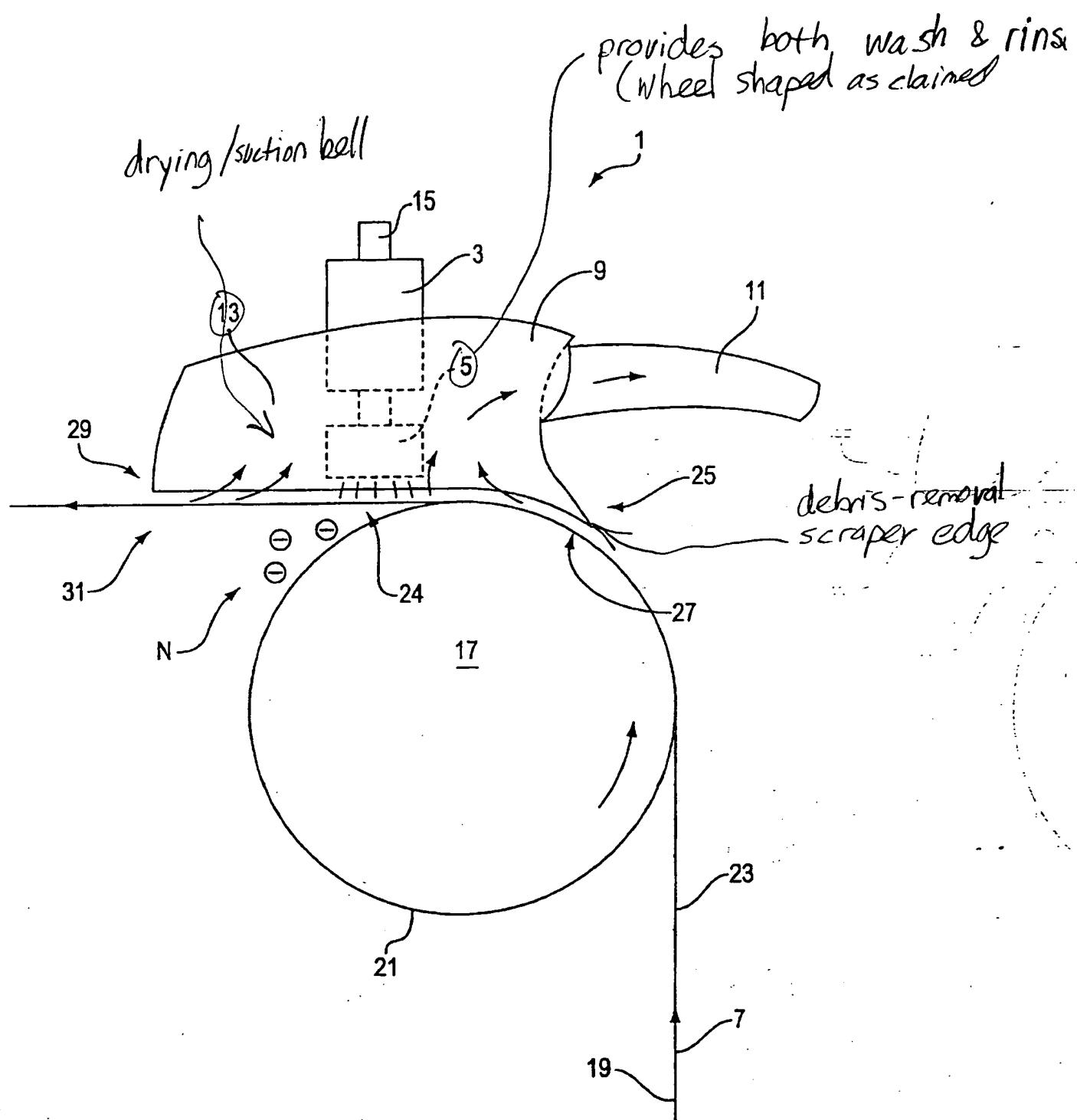


FIG. 1